The Taranaki Biodiversity Forum Accord

A community response to protecting native plants, animals and habitats

July 2012

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Foreword

New Zealand is estimated to have 80,000 species of native animals, plants, and fungi – many of which are yet to be scientifically described, named, and classified. While there is a lot of good work being done by land occupiers and others, much of our indigenous biodiversity is in a state of decline – approximately 85% of lowland forests and wetlands now gone and almost 2,500 native land-based and freshwater species considered threatened.

In Taranaki, there are many agencies, community groups and individuals that have an interest in biodiversity. Sometimes our interest is derived from a statutory function and responsibility, while for others it's a passion and we just want to do our bit. Until now, there has been no document that has attempted to set out agreed priorities and actions in order to coordinate and add value to our respective efforts.

This document is the *Taranaki Biodiversity Forum Accord –A community response to protecting native plants, animals and habitats* (the Accord). This Accord was an initiative arising out of the Third Taranaki Biodiversity Forum whereby signatories agreed to work together to set out an strategic vision, desired outcomes, priorities and actions that will:

(a) Raise the profile of biodiversity generally and increase awareness and understanding of the issues

(b) Provide a vehicle for dialogue, including information sharing, between like-minded but diverse interests

(c) Identify common ground and establish a publicly-agreed policy position and partnerships

(d) Make a commitment to positive action

(e) Establish a collaborative framework to better work together and identify opportunities for obtaining the best results from finite resources.

This Accord is a non statutory document. As such it does not over-ride regulatory functions, roles and responsibilities, including statutory strategies and plans. Notwithstanding that, it allows signatories (Accord partners) to look beyond their narrow sectoral interests and identify opportunities to do what is best for Taranaki (i.e. Taranaki Inc). While the vision, outcomes and plan of action focus on maintaining and enhancing biodiversity generally, Accord partners also agree that there is a need for an immediate focus on Taranaki's most valuable, yet vulnerable, biodiversity assets.

The Accord identifies three immediate priorities for maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in the region. These are:

1. Protect the distribution and abundance of the 70 native animal species and 99 native plant species whose natural ranges include Taranaki and which have been listed as "threatened", "at risk" or "regionally distinctive"
2. Secure a full range of sites that provide core habitat for threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species
3. Maintain the areal extent of systems that are historically rare or representative of a threatened ecosystem type where native vegetative is now reduced to 20% or less for that ecosystem type.

The priorities examine the adequacy of current protection given to our biodiversity assets. In so doing, they highlight specific species and sites warranting immediate further action. The priorities also highlight that, for many species, we do not have adequate information to

determine whether some species are locally secure or not in terms of population size, number of populations, or protected habitat. A key action of this Accord will be to investigate opportunities to address this information gap so that we are better placed to respond.

Section 6 of this Accord outlines a plan of action that consists of a broad range of methods that different Accord partners may be able to undertake. The methods range from being a land manager, including parks or reserves, providing works, services and or funding, enforcement, advocacy, advice and information, to monitoring and research. Responsibility for implementing the actions will depend upon who is 'best placed' to carry out the action, e.g. an organisation's statutory responsibilities and powers (if any), technical expertise and capacity.

The Plan of Action includes both existing and new actions by Accord partners. It acknowledges a lot of good things are already occurring on the ground but that there are opportunities and other actions we can take to build on the effort. Key actions identified in the Plan of Action include:

- Continue to implement and support existing programmes that protect the distribution and abundance of native plant and animal species, which are currently believed to be adequately protected in terms of population size or secured habitat
- Develop and implement new programmes to protect the distribution and abundance of native plant and animal species, which are currently believed to be inadequately protected in terms of population size or secured habitat
- Gather information on the distribution and abundance of native plant and animal species for which there is inadequate information to determine relative abundance and security
- Securing habitats that protect the broadest range of threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species possible
- Maintaining the areal extent of ecosystems that are historically rare or threatened.

Finally, this Accord is but a starting point for local agencies and community groups to better work together on biodiversity outcomes. Over time we hope other organisations and groups, including Iwi and hapu, research and educational institutes, and industry, will become a signatory to the Accord. When that occurs, the Accord will be amended to include new signatories. In the meantime we look forward to working together in delivering better biodiversity outcomes for the region.

Tiaki Te Mauri O Paraninihi Trust

East Taranaki Environment Trust

Environmental Research Institute, University of Waikato

Federated Farmers New Zealand

Fish and Game New Zealand

M.A.I.N. Trust NZ

New Zealand Herpetological Society

Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society

North Taranaki Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Society

Queen Elizabeth II National Trust

Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust

Taranaki Kiwi Trust

Taranaki Tree Trust

South Taranaki Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Society

New Plymouth District Council

South Taranaki District Council

Stratford District Council

Taranaki Regional Council

Department of Conservation.

Statement of intent – tangata whenua

The *Taranaki Biodiversity Forum Accord –A community response to protecting native plants, animals and habitats* (the Accord) is a starting point for participating organisations, agencies and groups to work together more collaboratively across Taranaki. It, by no means, captures everyone, for example Iwi o Taranaki.

Accord partners recognise that local Iwi and hapu have a strong cultural interest in both the protection and the sustainable use of biodiversity in Taranaki. They are also a major land owner.

To Maori, all components of ecosystems, both living and non-living, possess the spiritual qualities of tapu, mauri, mana, and wairua. Maori, as tangata whenua, are the kaitiaki (guardians) of these ecosystems and have a responsibility to protect and enhance them. This responsibility of people to other living things is expressed in the concept of kaitiakitanga — or guardianship.

"Hei whakapumau mo inaianei, a mo nga uri whakahaere" – a Maori term to describe the inter-generational responsibility we have to not only pass on to our descendants in at least no worse condition, but to do everything we can to improve, the quality of their heritage.

Understanding and valuing the Maori world-view is an essential step in all parties working more collaboratively together in Taranaki.

The Accord, so far, has been the product of conversations held largely within the Taranaki Biodiversity Forum. There has been limited Iwi or hapu involvement in the development of this Accord. Early conversations have been held with some Iwi and hapu about being a signatory to the Accord. However, for others there has been no conversation. This is a 'gap' that, over time, Accord partners will actively seek to address.

In the meantime, this Accord is about starting a dialogue. Accord partners trust that it will stimulate wider interest and a sense of shared responsibility for all of us to better address biodiversity in the Taranaki region.

Acknowledgements

Many people and organisations have assisted in the development of this Accord. Accord partners would like to thank the following organisations and individuals for their assistance.

Representatives from the Department of Conservation (DOC), East Taranaki Environment Trust, Federated Farmers New Zealand, New Plymouth District Council, Queen Elizabeth II National Trust, Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust, Royal Forest and Bird Society, South Taranaki District Council, Stratford District Council, Taranaki Fish and Game Council, Taranaki Kiwi Trust, Taranaki Regional Council, Taranaki Tree Trust, and Tiaki Te Mauri O Paraninihi Trust.

Finally the valuable assistance from the following individuals in providing information that contributed to the development of the Accord is gratefully acknowledged: Barry Hartley, Bill Clarkson, John Dodunski, Leigh Honnor, Donna Worthy (DOC), Rosemary Miller (DOC), Emily King (DOC), Jessica Scrimgeour (DOC), Bryan Williams (DOC), Graeme La Cock (DOC), Bart Jansma (Taranaki Regional Council), and Graham Young, on behalf of the Te Runanga o Ngati Ruanui Trust.

Table of contents

List of figures

List of tables

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document is the *Taranaki Biodiversity Forum Accord – A community response to protecting native plants, animals and their habitats* (the Accord).

The purpose of this Accord is to set out a statement of intent as to an agreed vision, desired outcomes, priorities and actions for Accord partners[1] and, in so doing:

(a) Raise the profile of biodiversity generally and increase awareness and understanding of the issues

(b) Provide a vehicle for dialogue, including information sharing, between like-minded but diverse interests

(c) Identify common ground and establish a publicly-agreed policy position and partnerships

(d) Make a commitment to positive action

(e) Establish a collaborative framework to better work together and identify opportunities for obtaining the best results from finite resources.

1.2 Background

Taranaki is fortunate in that there are many organisations and individuals committed and taking action to maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in the region. Overall there is a positive working relationship between the different parties.

At least once a year, many local organisations and individuals with a shared interest in biodiversity participate in the Taranaki Biodiversity Forum. The purpose of the Forum is to promote networking, disseminate information, and build community capacity within the region in relation to biodiversity.

At the third Taranaki Biodiversity Forum held on 11 December 2009, Forum participants discussed opportunities for local agencies and organisations to better work together and add value to each others' projects. There was general consensus that the combined collective effort could be improved by developing a 'Taranaki Inc Strategy' – a strategy that does not belong to any one organisation but which captures all interested parties.

The concept of a 'Taranaki Inc Strategy' recognises that while there are already many national, regional and local strategies, plans and programmes addressing aspects of biodiversity in the region, these are limited to an individual organisation's particular interest or jurisdictional responsibilities. What was sought was a strategy that did not belong to any one organisation but one that could cover all key players with an interest in biodiversity.

The concept of the Taranaki Inc Strategy has since evolved into this Accord. The Accord sets out a strategic and collaborative framework for Accord partners to share information, pool resources, and take action to deliver better biodiversity outcomes for the region. It is a non statutory document to be jointly administered and implemented by its signatories (the Accord partners).

In terms of the Accord's development, a working group was established involving representatives from organisations attending the Taranaki Biodiversity Forum that indicated they would be interested in being an 'Accord partner'. However, others have also assisted in the development of the Accord through the provision of technical information and or peer reviewing information in the Accord.

Subsequently, this Accord has been approved and adopted by the agencies and organisations identified in section 1.3 below.

[1] *'Accord partners' refers to local agencies and groups that are signatories of this Accord (refer* ***section 1.3 of the Accord****) and have agreed to contribute to the Accord's vision, outcomes, priorities and action plan.*

1.3 Accord partners

Set out below is a list of those organisations and agencies that have agreed to support and contribute to the vision, desired outcomes, priorities and plan of action set out in the Accord:

Department of Conservation

East Taranaki Environment Trust

Environmental Research Institute, University of Waikato

Federated Farmers New Zealand

Fish and Game New Zealand

M.A.I.N. Trust NZ

Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society Inc

New Plymouth District Council

New Zealand Herpetological Society

Queen Elizabeth II National Trust

Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust

Royal Forest and Bird Society (both the south and north Taranaki branches)

South Taranaki District Council

Stratford District Council

Taranaki Kiwi Trust

Taranaki Regional Council

Taranaki Tree Trust

Tiaki Te Mauri O Parininihi Trust.

For a brief summary of the roles and responsibilities of Accord partners in relation to biodiversity, please refer to section 3 of the Accord.

Over time, it is hoped other organisations and groups might be interested in being a signatory to the Accord. When this occurs, the Accord will be amended to include new signatories (refer section 7.2 of the Accord).

1.4 Effect and duration of the Accord

The Accord is a non statutory document. It is not legally binding on Accord partners and in no way restricts any person in the exercise of any power or discretion under any statute.

The Accord sets out an agreement by Accord partners to work towards promoting common biodiversity outcomes in the Taranaki region (Figure 1) over the next ten years.

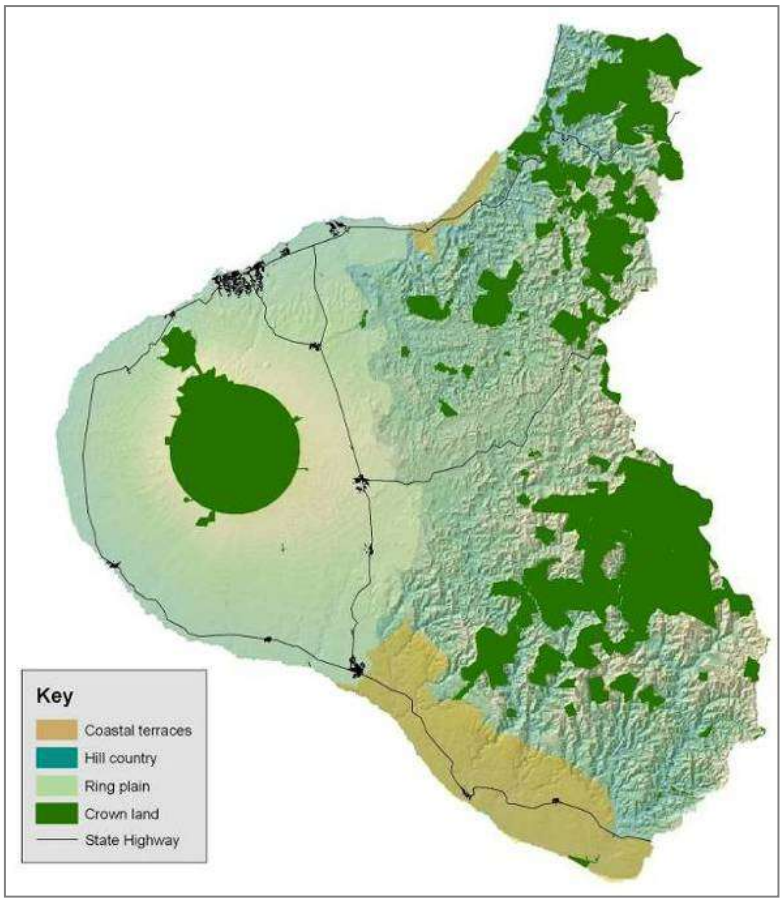


Figure 1: The Taranaki region

2. Context

2.1 Why is protecting local biodiversity important?

New Zealand is estimated to have 80,000 species of native animals, plants, and fungi. However, the report, *The State of New Zealand's Environment 1997*, concluded that biodiversity decline is New Zealand's most pervasive environmental issue. [2]

Approximately 85% of lowland forests, wetlands and sand dunes are now gone. Over the last 100 years, there have been 33 documented extinctions, including 16 birds, nine terrestrial invertebrates and six vascular plants (King 1984: Hitchmough *et al*. 2005). Of New Zealand's native species almost 2,500 are listed as threatened. However there are many species yet to be scientifically described, named, and classified – over 3,000 species are classed as data deficient under New Zealand's threatened classification system.

2.2 State of Taranaki's biodiversity

Many landowners and individuals are actively taking action to protect Taranaki's indigenous biodiversity.

Much of this work is unseen by the wider public. Nevertheless it is considerable. For example, many landowners have covenanted their land to protect remnant forests, wetlands or dunes. In Taranaki, many farmers are undertaking invasive plant and animal control to protect biodiversity values on their land. Such works include possum control as part of the Self-help Possum Control Programme and or the planting and retirement of stream banks as part of the Riparian Management Programme. Hundreds, if not thousands of individuals also participate as volunteers in community-led biodiversity projects.

In Taranaki, approximately 40% of the region is in native forest and shrubland (Figure 2). Native forest covers 225,566 hectares (ha) and shrubland covers 64,495 ha. Collectively native forest and shrubland covers 290,061 ha with almost half of this (approximately 143,000 ha) being on privately owned land.

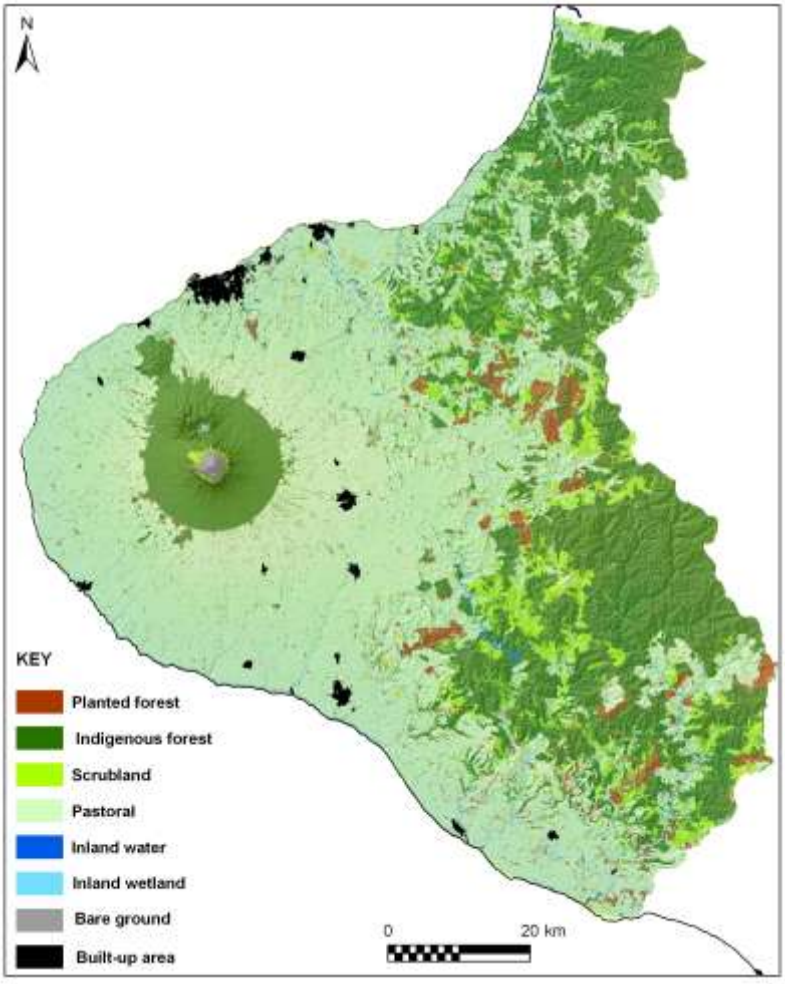


Figure 2: Land cover in Taranaki

[2] *Ministry for the Environment, 2008.*

The majority of remnant forest remaining in Taranaki is montane (mountainous) forest associated with the eastern hill country and Egmont National Park (Figure 2). Like in other parts of New Zealand, Taranaki has experienced a disproportionate loss of lowland forests, wetlands and dunelands – particularly on the ring plain and coastal terraces.

On the ring plain and coastal terraces less than 10% of the original native forest now remains. Across Taranaki, only 8% of Taranaki's original wetlands remain while, for sand dunes, only 12% have their original vegetative cover.

Some ecosystem types have historically always been rare in Taranaki (refer Appendix I). Historically rare ecosystems include estuaries, dune wetlands, and coastal herb fields and their protection is nationally important.

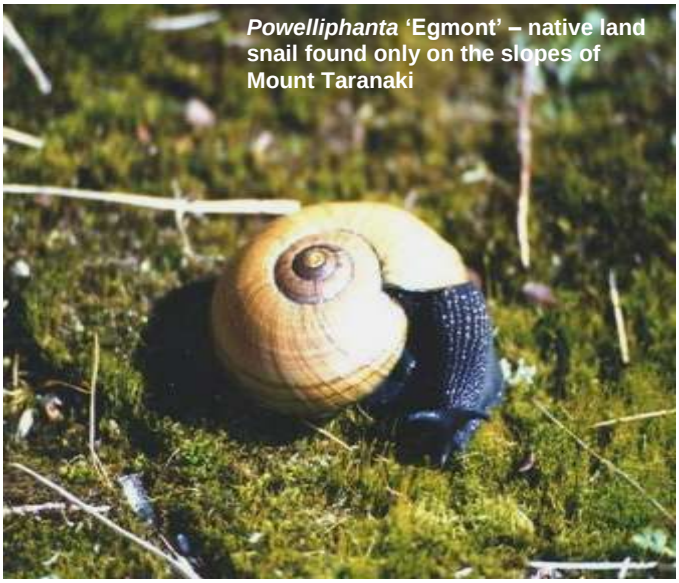
Taranaki is home to many native plant and animal species. However, some such as the kokako, brown teal, and yellow-crowned parakeet no longer have viable numbers to sustain wild populations. Local plant species believed to be extinct are *Hebe speciosa, Amphibromus fluitans* and the tussock sedge *Schoenus carsei*.

There are 66 animal species present in Taranaki that have been identified to be nationally threatened or at risk of extinction. Some, such as the Maui's dolphin and kokako, are currently close to local extinction.

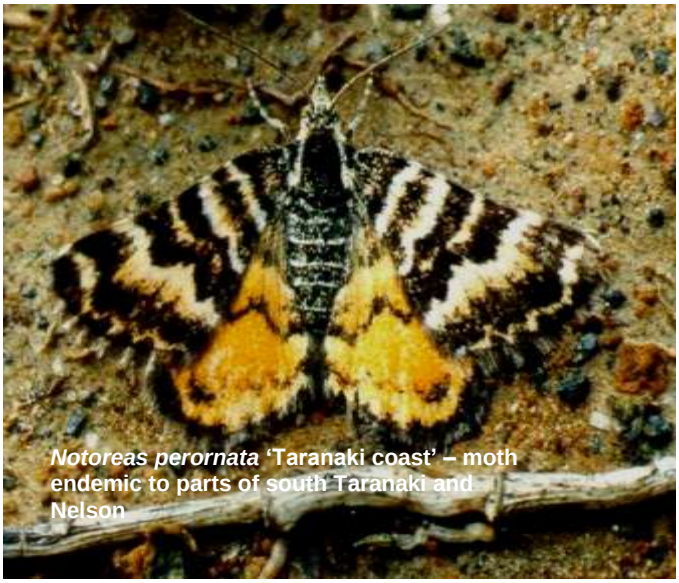
For other threatened or at risk species such as kiwi, spotless crake, whio (blue duck), kaka, Northern New Zealand dotterel, falcon, kereru (wood pigeon), geckos and skinks, *Powelliphanta* snail, and *Notoreas perornata* moth, their range and abundance is much reduced.

Fifty native plant species found in Taranaki are also identified as threatened, and at risk. Appendix II identifies threatened and at risk native plant and animal species present in Taranaki.

Limosella "Manutahi" **a threatened and regionally distinctive succulent herb plant found on south Taranaki cliff-tops**



Powelliphanta **'Egmont' – native land snail found only on the slopes of Mount Taranaki**



Notoreas perornata **'Taranaki coast' – moth endemic to parts of south Taranaki and Nelson**

Other native plant and animal species are identified as 'regionally distinctive'. Regionally distinctive species includes both threatened and non-threatened species that are worthy of protection because they are largely confined to the region, are particularly uncommon in this part of the country, or because Taranaki represents the limit of their national distribution range (e.g. *Dactylanthus* and the grey-faced petrel).

Appendix II identifies four native animal species and 49 native plant species that, though not nationally threatened, have been identified as being 'regionally distinctive'.

2.3 Pressures on biodiversity

Much of the original Taranaki landscape has been modified over time from land clearance and drainage activities. A number of native plant and animal species once common to Taranaki have disappeared due to habitat loss or the impact of invasive plants and animals.

Habitat loss (through land clearance and drainage) has historically been the main pressure on biodiversity. While the rate of land clearance and drainage has declined in recent times, the ongoing loss and modification of remnant habitats remains an issue, particularly on privately owned land in Taranaki. Even small losses of habitat can now have a disproportionate impact on remaining biodiversity – not only in terms of remnant sites having added value because of their rarity but also because they are more vulnerable to fragmentation and edge effects.

Much of the ring plain and coastal terraces has been cleared of its original native vegetation and is categorised as acutely threatened (i.e. less than 10% of the original native vegetation for that environment type remains – refer Figure 3).

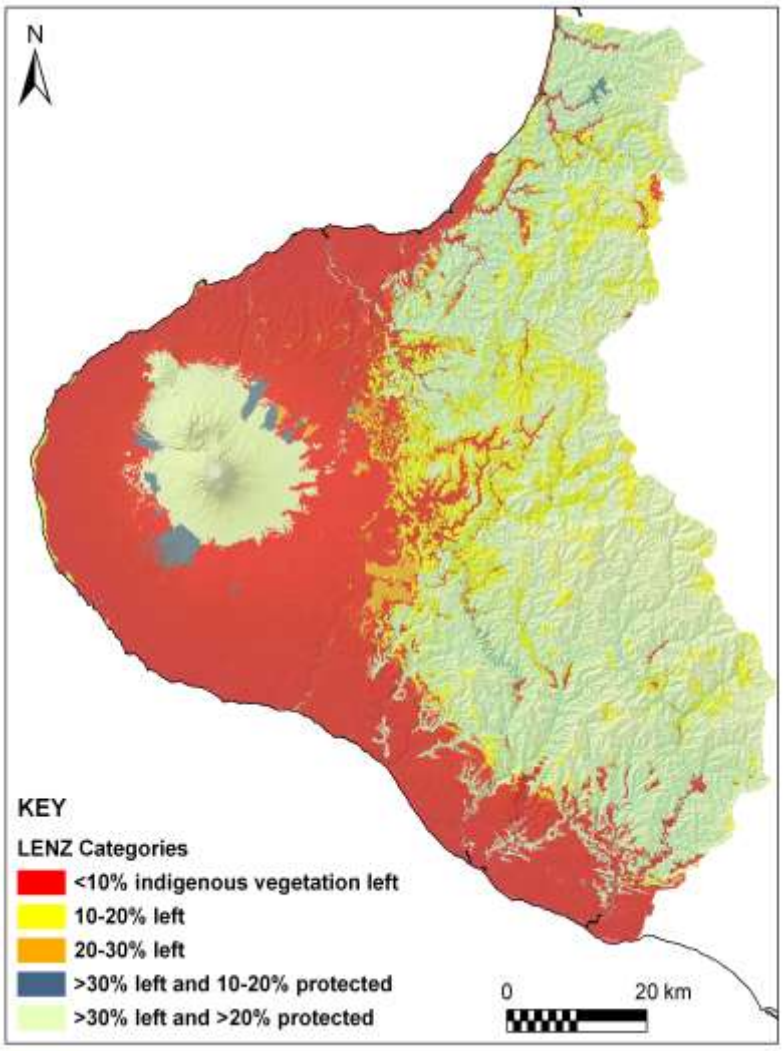


Figure 3: Threatened land environments in Taranaki

The loss of native vegetative cover means less habitat for native plants and animals. This is a forerunner to the extinction of native species.

Research charting the loss of native species over time has established a relationship between habitat loss and species loss. Studies note that, at first, the rate of species loss is relatively small as habitat area declines (usually the more vulnerable and or specialised species). However, as habitat area is progressively reduced, the rate of

species loss increases exponentially – particularly once vegetation cover declines below 20% and 10% of its original extent (Figure 4).[3]

Exacerbating issues associated with the loss of habitat is habitat fragmentation. Habitat fragmentation means declining connectivity between sites, which in turn, makes it more difficult for species that live within those habitats to successfully complete their life cycle (e.g. feeding, propagation, mate selection etc).

Habitat fragmentation also impacts on the robustness and resilience of ecosystems (e.g. remnants are more susceptible to edge effects and the spread of invasive plants and animals).

Today the most commonly recognised threats to biodiversity are the impacts of invasive plants (such as giant gunnera, old mans beard) and animals (particularly rodents, stoats, possums and feral goats) on native plants and animals through competition, browsing, foraging, and predation. Invasive plants and animals are reducing the quality and suitability of remnant habitats in terms of species richness and diversity.

Sustained invasive plant and animal control is an issue that applies to all land tenures – irrespective of whether it is privately owned or Crown land. It requires ongoing commitment.

Threats to fresh water biodiversity may also arise from habitat modification such as the drainage of wetlands, the channelizing or piping of streams, and discharges to water impacting on water quality and instream values.

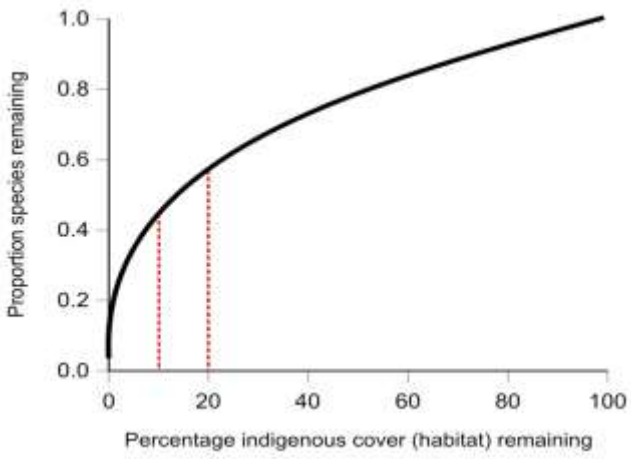


Figure 4: Relationship between declining habitat area on species loss

[3] *Ministry for the Environment and Department of Conservation, 2007.*

3. Roles and responsibilities of the Accord partners

Set out below is a brief summary of local organisations and groups that have agreed to be a signatory to this Accord thus far (i.e. Accord partner).

For central and local government agencies, the level of work that can be undertaken is largely determined through management plans and annual budgets. However, by agreeing to be a signatory to this Accord, the following organisations and groups have agreed to work towards the vision, desired outcomes, priorities and actions set out in the Accord.

Private landowners

Much of our rare and threatened native biodiversity is found on private land – in fact some species are now only found on private land.

Many private landowners have formally (legally) protected remnant forests, wetlands or dunes on their land through covenants. However, probably of more importance is the active management by landowners to 'protect' biodiversity values on their land. Such work includes undertaking invasive plant and animal control, the fencing of remnants bush and waterways to exclude stock, and the planting of native plants.

Many landowners are also actively involved with community trusts and participate in larger biodiversity projects.

Tangata whenua

As noted in the Statement of intent – tangata whenua (refer page iii of the Accord), Accord partners recognise that local Iwi and hapu have a strong cultural interest in both the protection and the sustainable use of biodiversity in Taranaki. Accord partners will investigate the interest of local Iwi and hapu to being a signatory to the Accord and contributing to its vision, outcomes, and actions.

3.1 Department of Conservation

The Department of Conservation has statutory responsibilities for managing biodiversity on public conservation land. In Taranaki, the Department manages 146,973 ha of Crown land (or 21% of the region) under the Conservation Act 1987, the National Parks Act 1980, the Wildlife Act 1953, and the Reserves Act 1977.

The Department of Conservation undertakes invasive plant and animal control on the public conservation estate. This includes possum control (at a level designed to preserve the forest canopy) as part of a regular 1080 treatment rotation, and feral deer and goat control (involving both the public conservation estate and private land).[4]

The Department of Conservation also undertakes other invasive plant and animal control, including mustelids, feral cat and rodent control for threatened species protection. Major weed control programmes include Chilean rhubarb on the South Taranaki coast (public and private land), spartina in the Patea estuary, climbing asparagus at Lucy's Gully, and climbing spindleberry on public and private land at various sites between Oakura and Tongapurutu.

The Department of Conservation is also responsible for protecting native plants and animals. All native animals are Crown property and the Department has considerable experience and expertise in wildlife management, including threatened species recovery.

[4] *Of note the Egmont National Park is the only national park free of feral deer and pigs. Other large herbivores such as goats and possum) are also controlled to low levels.*

3.2 District councils

There are three district councils in Taranaki - New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council. Each district council has objectives, policies and actions in their district plans addressing indigenous vegetation.

New Plymouth and South Taranaki district councils have identified a number of significant natural areas in their district. All councils have a fund to assist private landowners to protect significant natural areas, e.g. covenanting, legal, survey and fencing costs.

Each district council also has a number of council-owned parks, reserves and other lands and undertakes direct management of invasive plant and animal threats within these sites in accordance with management plans and their annual budgets.

3.3 East Taranaki Environment Trust

The East Taranaki Environment Trust (ETET) undertakes a landscape scale ecosystem project on around 13,000 ha. This is in the Matau/Purangi and Pouiatoa areas in eastern Taranaki. The Trust focuses on "*…in-situ native species protection with a focus on kiwi*".

ETET, with the support of around 45 local landowners, aim to have 500 pair of kiwi under protection from predators in Taranaki. This includes possum, mustelids, rodent, goat, and cat control. The Trust also promotes sustainable land management practices in the area.

ETET is also involved in the blue duck (whio) recovery programme in the Egmont National Park.

3.4 Environmental Research Institute, University of Waikato

The Environmental Research Institute, based at the University of Waikato, provides research, advisory and consultancy services to a range of end-users on environmental issues.

The Institute has previously supported a number of biodiversity projects in Taranaki ranging from assisting in vegetative monitoring, the development of restoration plans to web development.

3.5 Federated Farmers

Federated Farmers of New Zealand is a member-based organisation representing farming and other rural businesses.

With approximately half of Taranaki's remaining native forests and shrubland being on privately owned land, farmers are an essential part of any biodiversity management response. Federated Farmers have agreed to be an Accord partner to represent farmers' interests.

3.6 M.A.I.N. Trust NZ

Mapping Analysis and Information Network Trust New Zealand (M.A.I.N. Trust) is a Taranaki-based charitable trust that provides online environmental, biodiversity and pest management data gathering and analysis solutions.

M.A.I.N. Trust maintains a website www.terrain.net.nz, which is free to users. A number of Taranaki community groups use the website to display their information and provide links to public maps about their work and results.

3.7 New Zealand Herpetological Society

New Zealand Herpetological Society aims to promote awareness and interest in amphibians and reptiles, including their conservation.

New Zealand Herpetological Society based in New Plymouth caters for all levels of interest in herpetology through advocacy and education. The Society also plays a key role in maintaining data on Taranaki lizards.

3.8 Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society

The Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society was formed in 1997 to promote the idea of a network of small reserves on the Taranaki coast. The society is made up of locals who are interested in the study and preservation of local coastal and marine areas.

To date the Society has successfully initiated the establishment of the Tapuae Marine Reserve and continues to survey, study and foster community interest in marine life on the Taranaki coast.

3.9 QEII National Trust

The Queen Elizabeth II National Trust (QEII) is an independent statutory organization set up to encourage and promote the provision, protection preservation and enhancement of open space.

QEII works with landowners to formally (legally) protect natural and cultural features on their land. This involves negotiating open space covenants (or protection agreements) with landowners, and includes financial assistance towards the costs of surveying, covenanting and fencing.

In Taranaki there are 296 covenants totalling 5,351 ha (includes covenants approved but awaiting registration). The largest registered covenant in Taranaki is 333 ha, with the average sized covenant being 18.1 ha.[5]

3.10 Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust

The Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust has the following vision statement: "*…Rotokare Scenic Reserve will be a flourishing indigenous ecosystem, highly valued by the community*."

The Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust has created 'mainland' island and manages a predator-exclusion fence that protects 230 ha of the Rotokare Scenic Reserve. The Trust has eradicated all introduced mammal pests and is beginning to reintroduce many threatened native species back to the area.

The Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust also operates a kiwi crèche as a joint project with TKT plus maintains an on-site environmental education centre and programme.

3.11 Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society

The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand is New Zealand's largest national non-governmental conservation organisation. Its mission is to "*…preserve and protect the native plants and animals and natural features of New Zealand*."

There are two Taranaki branches of Forest and Bird: North Taranaki and South Taranaki. Through their volunteers, the branches carry out a significant amount of on-the-ground conservation work, including the management of Forest and Bird owned reserves at Te Wairoa and Tom and Don's Bush, plus predator control out at Mangemange.

Other significant activities undertaken by local branches include fund raising to support local conservation projects, running the Kiwi Conservation Club for Children, and advocacy to support the protection of Taranaki's native ecosystems and species.

3.12 Taranaki Fish and Game Council

The Fish and Game Council has statutory responsibility under the Conservation Act to sustainably manage New Zealand's fresh water sports fish and gamebird resources for the recreational interests of anglers and hunters. This includes managing the hunting of gamebirds, some of which are native species (e.g. NZ shoveler, pukeko, paradise shelduck, and grey duck).

The Fish and Game Council also have a duty to advocate for the protection of freshwater sports fish and gamebird habitats. Locally, the Taranaki Fish and Game Council are

[5] *Neil Phillips, email correspondence to the Taranaki Regional Council (Document 915902). Further information on http://www.openspace.org.nz/Site/Covenants/default.aspx#H60213-7.*

active in advocating for and promoting the protection of freshwater habitats, including wetlands.

3.13 Taranaki Kiwi Trust

Taranaki Kiwi Trust (TKT) works throughout Taranaki "*…to promote and facilitate the restoration and protection of sustainable populations of kiwi in Taranaki*".

TKT's flagship programme is working with the Department of Conservation to restore a sustainable population of kiwi in Egmont National Park. This includes assisting with predator control over 7,000 ha of the Park. Through its Community Kiwi Protection Programme[6] it also supports private landowners interested in kiwi protection.

TKT maintains a regional database of kiwi records and has active education and advocacy programmes that include school visits, displays and resource kits.

3.14 Taranaki Regional Council

The Taranaki Regional Council has statutory responsibilities for managing biodiversity through the Resource Management Act 1991. Resource use, involving the coast, fresh water, air and soil conservation, is regulated by the Council via regional plans.

The Taranaki Regional Council also has statutory responsibilities under the Biosecurity Act 1993 for invasive plant and animal control. Of particular note, is the Self-help Possum Control Programme, which involves the Council and the landowners maintaining low possum numbers over most of the ring plain.

The Taranaki Regional Council's Sustainable Land Management Programme involves preparing property plans for landowners and making recommendations for riparian fencing and planting on the ring plain and the retirement of steep land in the hill country.

In 2008, the Taranaki Regional Council adopted its Biodiversity Strategy (2008), which focuses on working with and supporting land owners and other parties to protect sites with regionally significant indigenous biodiversity values (called Key Native Ecosystems).

3.15 Taranaki Tree Trust

The Taranaki Tree Trust is a charitable trust, dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the region's ecosystems and landscapes. The Taranaki Regional Council administers and services the Taranaki Tree Trust and provides a part time coordinator.

The Taranaki Tree Trust assists landowners with the maintenance, restoration, enhancement or protection of wetlands, remnant native forest and bush (when not identified by the district councils as a Significant Natural Area, or the Taranaki Regional Council as a Key Native Ecosystem or regionally significant wetland), threatened land environments or habitats of threatened species, amenity planting, and projects consistent with the objectives of its Trust Deed.

3.16 Tiaki Te Mauri O Paraninihi Trust

The Tiaki Te Mauri O Paraninihi Trust was established by Ngati Tama and the local community in March 2012 for the purpose of promoting the restoration and protection of the cultural and ecological value of Ngati Tama land.

The Tiaki Te Mauri O Paraninihi Trust, amongst other things, is undertaking conservation work over 1,860 hectares of primary coastal and lowland indigenous forest in Paraninihi. The work includes significant possum and predator control, and monitoring.

3.17 Potential future signatories

Other organisations, trusts and community groups with an interest in biodiversity work,

[6] *This involves a TKT Field Officer working with landowners to establish predator control regimes on their properties, with trap boxes on long-term loan from the Trust.*

and therefore maybe potential signatories in the future, include:

- Dune Restoration Trust of New Zealand, which promotes the restoration of sand dunes
- New Zealand Botanical Society, which caters for all levels of interest in botany
- New Zealand Ornithological Society, which caters for all levels of interest in birds
- Oaonui Sandy Bay Society Trust – manages the conservation of Sandy Bay
- Rapanui Grey-faced Petrel Trust, which manages the conservation of the grey-faced petrel colony, including predator proof fence
- Tane's Tree Trust, which encourages land owners to plant and sustainably manage native trees for multiple uses
- Educational, research and business institutions.

On parties indicating their interest in being a signatory to the Accord, the Accord will be reviewed and updated in accordance with sections 7.2 and 7.3 of the Accord.

Figure 5 provides a 'snapshot' of some of the larger biodiversity project occurring in the region.

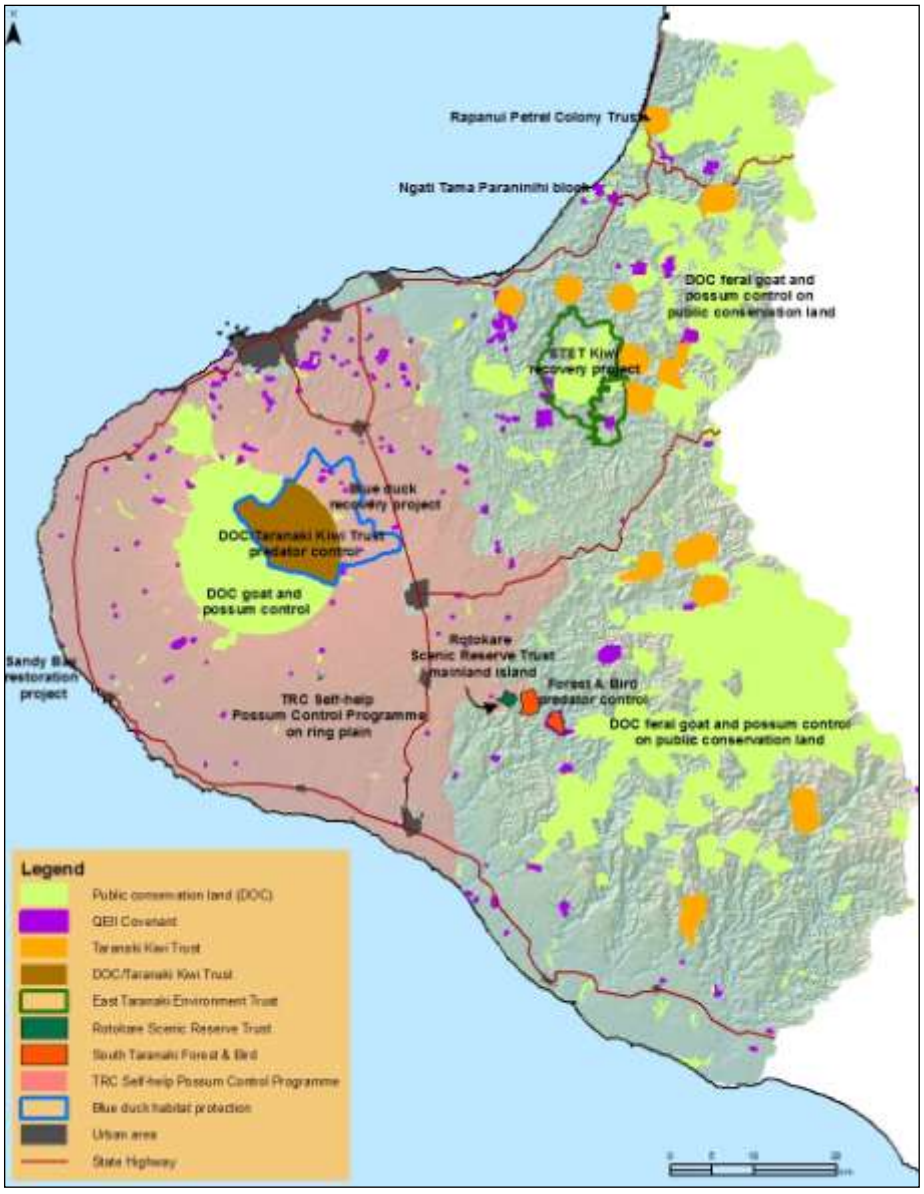


Figure 5: Major biodiversity projects being undertaken in Taranaki

4. Vision and desired outcomes

This section sets out an over-arching vision and desired outcomes for biodiversity in Taranaki.

4.1 Vision

Taranaki residents and visitors better understand and value biodiversity; we all work together to protect, sustain and enhance our biodiversity; and Taranaki has a representative range of its original native ecosystems and species.

4.2 Desired outcomes

In working towards that vision, Accord partners will implement the Plan of Action (refer section 6 of the Accord) to achieve the following outcomes.

Outcome 1: *To maintain a full representative range of native species, habitats and ecosystems that occurs in Taranaki.*

Outcome 2: *To promote the maintenance and enhancement of indigenous biodiversity values generally in Taranaki.*

Outcome 3: *To promote efficient and effective biodiversity management through enhanced knowledge and understanding of biodiversity in Taranaki.*

Outcome 4: *To enhance community capacity and biodiversity gains through the pooling of resources, prioritising and coordination of effort by different agencies, trusts and community groups across the region.*

Explanation of outcomes

Outcome 1 seeks to ensure Taranaki maintains a full representative range of species, habitats and ecosystems over the life of the Accord. This necessarily involves focusing on and prioritising the protection of the elements of indigenous biodiversity that are more vulnerable than others. This means protecting not just populations of regionally rare and distinctive species in the wild but also ensuring that there is a full range of habitats and ecosystem types available to support their long term future. Section 6 below expands upon this outcome to identify priorities for protecting our most valuable and vulnerable species, habitats and ecosystems.

Outcome 2 seeks to promote and enhance biodiversity generally over the life of the Accord. Much biodiversity, while not particularly significant in its own right, nevertheless is important as part of the wider ecological functioning of the environment, or because there is a general public desire to maintain more common native biodiversity elements in the landscape such as tui, bellbird and kereru in urban gardens.

Currently, there are gaps in scientific knowledge (e.g. as noted in Appendix II for many threatened species there is insufficient local data to determine their relative abundance, range and viability). Furthermore, there are often difficulties in accessing basic up-to-date information. So while there might be information on a particular topic that information can be scattered across a range of organisations, publications and databases and therefore is not very accessible. Robust, accessible, usable information is necessary to inform and underpin management actions. Accordingly Outcome 3 seeks to enhance the quantity and quality of information necessary to promote more efficient and

effective biodiversity management in Taranaki over the life of the Accord.

Outcome 4 recognises that resources are finite and shared between a large number of agencies, organisations, groups and individuals with differing priorities. To improve biodiversity generally, as appropriate, the different agencies, trusts and community groups across Taranaki will explore opportunities to pool their resources, share information and coordinate efforts. They will also work, over the life of the Accord, on building the pool of people and groups who are interested, active and skilled in biodiversity protection.

Moturoa school children grow plants from local stock

5. Immediate ecological priorities

This section identifies three immediate priorities for giving effect to Outcome 1, i.e. maintaining a full representative range of native species, habitats and ecosystems.

The priorities identify Taranaki's most valuable and vulnerable biodiversity assets. The identification of our most valuable and vulnerable assets is the first step in determining what immediate or short term action should be adopted in the action plan (section 6 of the Accord) to get the best results possible from finite resources.

When considering new projects, Accord partners should consider what represents 'best value'. Sometimes this might mean targeting actions or resources for different species or in a different place because of the greater gains to be achieved. This is similar in concept to the Department of Conservation's Project Prioritisation Protocol.

In brief, the Project Prioritisation Protocol involves nine steps:

Step 1: Define objective, e.g. to secure the greatest possible number of unique species and habitats

Step 2: List biodiversity assets, e.g. the component of biodiversity that one wishes to secure from extinction

Step 3: Weigh the uniqueness or significance of a biodiversity asset, e.g. threat classification, adequacy of their protection locally etc

Step 4: List management projects. For each biodiversity asset, identify the minimum set of actions necessary to secure the species or habitat

Step 5: Estimate project costs

Step 6: Predict project benefits to assets

Step 7: Estimate likelihood of project success

Step 8: State any constraints - constraints generally related to lack of resourcing or information

Step 9: Rank 'best value' projects having regard to steps 5 to 8 above.

5.1 Priority 1: Secure populations of threatened species

Secure viable populations of threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species whose natural range include Taranaki.

Explanation

This priority seeks to ensure that native species currently present in Taranaki will continue to be present into the future. The most at risk of disappearing are those species identified as threatened or at risk nationally. However, Accord partners also want to ensure regionally distinctive species are adequately protected.

Taranaki has 70 native animal species and 99 native plant species that are identified as threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive (refer Appendix II). In relation to these species, 29 animal species (41%) and 32 plant species (32%) are considered to be adequately protected in Taranaki in terms of population size, number of populations and or being secured within an area(s) that is formally protected and or actively protected (e.g. invasive plant and animal control).

The Action Plan (refer section 6.2 below) will include management programmes, often existing, to ensure that populations of these species are secure. However, the Action Plan will also support new programmes to address the 20 (29%) animal species and 21 (21%) plant species that are not yet adequately protected in Taranaki (Table 1).

In addition to the above, the Action Plan will seek to address information gaps on another 21 (30%) animal species and 46 (47%) plant species identified as threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive. Currently there is insufficient information on the local range and abundance of these species to determine whether they are adequately secure or not in Taranaki.

Table 1 overleaf identifies those threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive species identified as being inadequately protected in Taranaki or for which further information is needed.

Kiwi, though nationally listed as threatened, is relatively secure in many parts of Taranaki

The goldstripe gecko is confined to small localised populations in Taranaki

Gratiola concinna **is largely confined tothe Egmont National Park**

Table 1: Species not confirmed to be secure in the Taranaki region

Native species identified as not secure		Native species for which further information is required to assess their security	
Animal	**Plant**	**Animal**	**Plant**
Australasian bittern	*Arthropteris tenella*	Banded dotterel	*Adelopetalum tuberculatum*
Blue duck	*Brachyglottis turneri*	Banded rail	*Alepis flavida*
Black katipo spider	*Craspedia 'Otakeho'*	Black stilt[1]	*Astelia trinervia*
Bluegill bully	*Crassula Manaia*	Carabid beetle (*Brullea antartica*)	*Baumea articulata*
Freshwater mussel	*Crassula peduncularis*	Caspian tern[1]	*Baumea teretifolia*
Goldstripe gecko	*Euphorbia glauca*	Ground beetle (*Mecodema angustulum*)	*Carex litorosa*
Katipo spider	*Gratiola concinna*	Killer whale[1]	*Chaerophyllum "minute flower"*
Notoreas perornata "Taranaki coast"	*Hebe speciosa*	Lamprey	*Coprosma acerosa*
New Zealand dabchick	*Lepidium flexicaule*	Long tailed bat (Nth Island)	*Coprosma x kirkii*
North Island kokako	*Limosella "Manutahi"*	Long-tailed cuckoo	*Corunasylis nuda*
North Island rifleman	*Myosotis brevis*	New Zealand pied oystercatcher[1]	*Crassula mataikona*
North little blue penguin	*Myosotis petiolata var. pansa*	New Zealand shore plover[1]	*Deparia petersenii*
Northern NZ dotterel	*Peraxilla colensoi*	Northern less long tailed bat (Nth Island)	*Eleocharis neozelandica*
Ornate skink	*Peraxilla tetrapetala*	Pacific gecko	*Forstera bidwillii var. densiflora*
Spotless crake	*Pimelea aff. arenaria*	Pied shag[1]	*Gahnia lacera*
Southern North Island speckled skink	*Pterostylis micromega (Hook f.)*	Reef heron	*Gunnera arenaria*
Striped skink	*Ranunculus limosella*	Royal spoonbill[1]	*Hebe corriganii*
Tadpole shrimp	*Ranunculus recens var. recens*	Scarab beetle	*Isachne globosa*
Variable oystercatcher	*Scandia rosifolia*	Torrentfish	*Juncus caespiticius*
Yellow crowned parakeet	*Sonchus kirkii*	Wellington green gecko	*Juncus pauciflorus*
	Tetragonia tetragonioides	White heron[1]	*Leptinella dispersa ssp. dispersa*
			Leptinella tenella
			Lindsaea virdis
			Litsea calicaris
			Mazus novaezeelandiae subsp.
			Metrosideros carminea
			Myosotis pygmaea var. pygmaea
			Nematoceras rivulare
			Nematoceras rivulare "Te Henui"
			Olearia albida
			Olearia solandri
			Olearia townsoni
			Parahebe lanceolata
			Pimelea carnosa
			Plagianthus divaricatus
			Prasophyllum hectorii
			Rorippa divaricata
			Schoenus carsei
			Schoenus tendo
			Sebaea ovata
			Selliera rotundifolia
			Thelymitra aff.paucflora
			Thelymitra cyanea
			Thelymitra Formosa
			Thelymitra species
			Utricularia dichotoma
20	21	21	46

[1] A migratory or transient native species, which visits Taranaki but does not breed here.

5.2 Priority 2: Protect a full range of habitats of threatened species

Protect a full range of habitats of threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species whose natural range include Taranaki.

Explanation

Taranaki has literally thousands of sites, of various sizes, providing habitat for species that are identified as threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive. However, some sites are more important than others because:

(a) They provide core habitats[7] for multiple (at least five or more) threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species whose natural range include Taranaki

(b) They provide core habitat for a single threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species of very limited distribution or abundance in Taranaki (e.g. confined to one or two sites).

A desktop analysis undertaken on behalf of Accord partners identified 41 sites[8] that are exceptionally important in terms of providing habitat for threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive species (Table 2). Habitats in these sites should be protected (both legally and in terms of active management) in order to secure populations of threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species in Taranaki.

Of the 41 sites so far identified, 24 (59%) are already formally protected. For the formally protected sites, the Action Plan supports active management to maintain and enhance the sites, e.g. species recovery programmes, habitat restoration and sustained weed and pest control.

For the 17 sites (41%) that have no or only partial formal protection, the Action Plan will support active management as well as investigate any opportunities to promote the formal protection of those sites.

Table 2 identifies another 14 sites which are likely to provide core habitat for multiple threatened, at risk or distinctive species, however, further information is needed. The Action Plan will support the surveying and investigation of these sites.

Taranaki's most valuable habitats for threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive native plant and animal species are identified in Appendix III.

Egmont National Park includes habitat for 29 threatened or regionally distinctive species

Three Sisters provides core habitat for *Limosella* "Manutahi" and *Gunnera arenaria*

[7] *"Core habitat" for resident species means sufficient suitable habitat area to maintain a viable breeding population, whereas for migratory species, it means sufficient suitable habitat area to support temporary populations (e.g. wetland areas for migratory wading birds.*

[8] *Refer Taranaki Regional Council, 2011. Note that sites identified represent a starting point only. Overtime, as surveys are completed, other sites are likely to be identified and added to the list.*

Table 2: Taranaki's most valuable habitats for threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive native plant and animal species

Known habitats for multiple threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive species		**Habitats essential for species of very limited distribution / abundance in Taranaki**		**Likely habitats with multiple threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive species**	
Formally protected	**No / partial formal protection**	**Formally protected**	**No / partial formal protection**	**Formally protected**	**No / partial formal protection**
Awahou Scenic Reserve [1]	Hawkens Lagoon and Swamp [1, 2]	Donald Warea [2]	Bayly Road Beach [1]	Kaipikari Road Forest Remnants [2]	Condon's Bush [2]
Egmont National Park [1]	Moumahaki Lakes and catchment [1, 2]	Maitahi Scenic Reserve [1]	Ihupuku Swamp Wildlife Management Reserve [1, 2]	QEII Covenant 5/06/152 [2]	Kahu [2]
Hutiwai Conservation Area [1]	Pukatea [2]	Mimi Scenic Reserve [1]	Kawau Pa Historic Reserve [1, 2]	QEII Covenant 5/06/001A & B [2]	Kuwhatahi [2]
Julian's Pond [2]	Puketapu Road End [2]	Otakeho Beach [1]	Mudfish 1 Wetland [2]	QEII Covenant 5/06/148 [2]	Matuku Bush [2]
Lake Rotokare Scenic Reserve [1]	Sandy Bay [1, 2]	Rapanui Petrel Colony [2]	Ngaere Swamp Forests [2]	Taramoukou Conservation Area [1]	Ngakotana Gorge [2]
Mohakatino Conservation Area [1]	Matau / Purangi (ETET) block [2]	Three Sisters Coastal [2]	Patea Wetland [2]	Tarere Conservation Area [1, 2]	Tarere Forest Extensions [2]
Mohakatino Swamp Conservation Area [1]		Three Sisters Wetland [2]	Stent Road Beach [2]	Uruti Conservation Area [1]	
Moki / Makino conservation areas [1]		Waitara River Scenic Reserve [1]	Waihi Stream Wetland [2]	Uruti Scenic Reserve [1]	
Pouiatoa Conservation Area [1]			Waipipi Dunes [1, 2]		
Pou Tehia Historic Reserve and Tongaporutu Conservation Area [1]			Waitara West Marginal Strip [1, 2]		
Toro Road [2]			Waverley Beach [1]		
Sugar Loaf Islands Marine Protected Area [1]					
Sutherland and Normanby Road ends [1]					
Waitaanga Conservation Area* [1]					
Waitotara Conservation Area [1]					
Whitecliffs Conservation Area, Paraninihi, Mt Messenger Scenic Reserve and Conservation Area [1, 2]					

* Waitaanga Conservation Area lies outside the Taranaki Regional Council's administrative boundaries but falls within the Department of Conservation's Taranaki Area jurisdiction.

[1] Crown land.

[2] Privately owned land.

5.3 Priority 3: Maintain the extent of threatened ecosystems

Maintain the areal extent of historically rare ecosystems and threatened environments in Taranaki.

Explanation

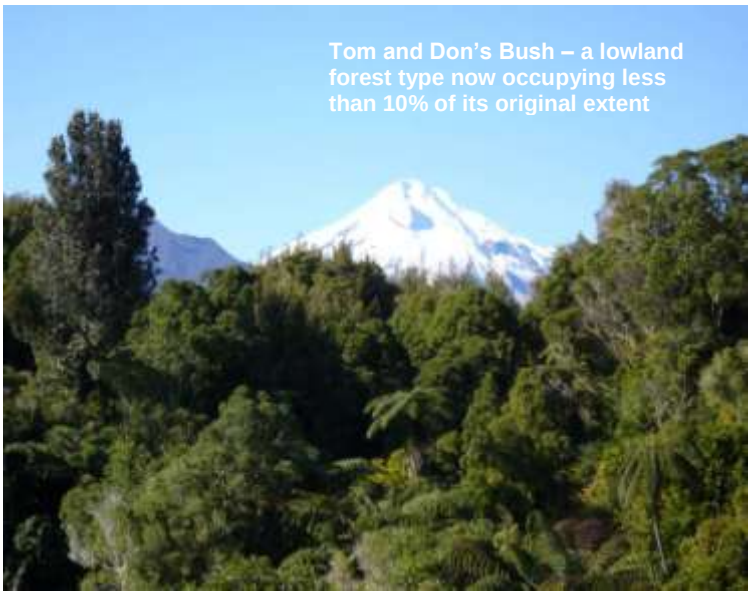
In addition to habitats of threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species, other areas are important in their own right because they are of an ecosystem type that are nationally rare.

As appropriate, the Action Plan will focus on minimising, mitigating or avoiding habitat modification involving historically rare ecosystems and threatened ecosystems (environments).

Historically rare ecosystems in Taranaki include estuaries, dune wetlands, and coastal herb fields and turflands (Appendix I).

Montane environments are adequately protected in Taranaki (though the species within them may not be). Therefore the focus is on threatened ecosystems, which involve environments where native vegetative cover is now reduced to 20% or less of that environment (as classified under the Land Environments of New Zealand system). These environments include:

- Coastal and lowland forests
- Wetlands, and
- Sand dunes.



Tom and Don's Bush – a lowland forest type now occupying less than 10% of its original extent

Only 8% of Taranaki's original wetlands remain

Sandy Bay – only 12% of Taranaki's sandy dunes retain their original vegetative cover

6. Plan of action

This section outlines an Action Plan for giving effect to the Accord vision, outcomes and priorities.

6.1 General methods

The following are the suite of management tools that may be applied by one or more Accord partners. Responsibility for implementing the actions will depend upon who is 'best placed' to carry out the action, e.g. an organisation's statutory responsibilities and powers (if any), technical expertise, capacity, and interest.

METH 1: **Land manager** –administering or managing land, including parks and reserves.

METH 2: **Service delivery** –an organisation or community group organise, provides and or undertakes services and action. Service delivery of particular importance to this Accord includes:

- threatened species recovery
- invasive plant and animal control
- habitat restoration, including fencing, planting and earthworks.

METH 3: **Financial assistance** – providing funding to others to support biodiversity projects and initiatives.

METH 4: **Facilitation** – working with and bringing different parties together to promote and advance biodiversity objectives.

METH 5: **Advocate** – trying to persuade others to act.

METH 6: **Education** – providing information and advice to landowners, resource users and the wider public to:

- generally promote awareness to foster behavioural changes in relation to biodiversity
- provide technical assistance on best management practices and techniques
- support community engagement.

METH 7: **Monitoring and research** – gather information on the state of biodiversity and the effectiveness of management efforts.

METH 8: **Regulation** – administering and enforcing the law.

6.2 Plan of action

This section identifies specific activities and actions proposed by Accord partners to give effect to the Accord vision, outcomes and priorities.

The Action Plan includes the specific action proposed, plus:

- The organisation(s) best placed to undertake or lead the action[9]
- Whether it is an existing or new action plus the indicative timeframe for its implementation
- The Accord outcomes and priorities the action contributes to.

[9] *Recognising that, over the life of the Accord, there will be opportunities for other Accord partners to contribute or support a particular action.*

Table 3: Plan of action for Accord partners to manage indigenous biodiversity in the Taranaki region

	Key actions	Lead responsibility	Existing or new action	Implementation timeframe	Main outcome / priority being achieved
Land managers (inc formal protection)	1. Continue to manage public conservation areas	**DOC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1, 2 & 3
	2. Continue to manage the Rotokare Scenic Reserve	**Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2 & 3
	3. Continue to manage the Paraninihi covenant area	**Paraninihi Trust**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2 & 3
	4. Continue to manage local parks and reserves	**TLAs, TRC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2 & 3
	5. Continue to secure covenants on privately owned land to formally protect natural values on that land, including historically rare ecosystems, threatened environments, and those core habitats identified in Table 2	**QEII, TRC, DOC,** private land occupiers	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2 & 3
Species recovery and protection	6. Continue to implement and support activities for the protection of the 61 threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species that are identified in Table 6 as being appropriately protected	**DOC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1
	7. Support species recovery programmes to secure the 41 species identified in Table 1 as being inadequately protected	**DOC**	New	2017 onwards	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1
	8. Support the re-establishment of kokako in Taranaki	**DOC**	New	By 2017	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1
	9. Undertake Western North Island brown kiwi recovery programmes in Taranaki in accordance with the relevant Taxon Plan, including on Egmont National Park, Parininihi, Rotokare Scenic Reserve, Pouiatoa/Purangi and in the eastern hill country	**DOC, TKT, ETET**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1
	10. Undertake the whio recovery programme in Egmont National Park and adjacent farmland	**DOC, ETET, F&G, TRC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1
	11. Continue to undertake appropriate protection and management of *Notoreas* "Taranaki Coast" within coastal herbfields	**DOC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1
Invasive plant and animal control	12. Undertake regular aerial possum control, on a 7-year cycle, in parts of the public conservation estate including Egmont National Park, Hutiwai, Parininihi, Pouiatoa, Moki/Makino, and Waitaanga conservation areas	**DOC**	Existing	2017/2018 (for Egmont National Park)	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	13. Continue with ongoing possum ground control operations in parts of the public conservation estate including on the Taranaki ring plain and northern reserves – Tarata, & Tauwhare bend (Mōkau river)	**DOC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	14. Continue ongoing possum ground control along boundary of Egmont National Park	**DOC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	15. Undertake regular feral goat control in the public conservation estate focusing on the Egmont National Park, Parininihi and the Moki/Makino, Pouiatoa and Waitaanga conservation areas	**DOC**	Existing	Annually	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	16. Undertake regular deer management throughout Taranaki. Focusing on Egmont National Park, Moki/Makino, Parininihi, and Waitaanga conservation areas. Respond to illegal deer liberations as required. Continue to meet obligations regarding deer fencing regulations	**DOC**	Existing	Annually	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	17. Undertake regular invasive plant control within Egmont National Park, ring plain reserves and other priority sites to protect vulnerable habitats and species	**DOC**	Existing	Annually	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	18. Undertake predator control in Egmont National Park, Parininihi, Pouiatoa Conservation Area and at Matau / Purangi to support kiwi recovery programmes	**DOC, TKT, ETET**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	19. Undertake predator control in Egmont National Park and adjacent farmland as part of the whio recovery programme	**DOC, ETET**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	20. Undertake predator and possum control at Parininihi, to support species recovery programmes	**Paraninihi Trust**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	21. Maintain pest free site at Rotokare Scenic Reserve to protect kiwi, spotless crake, North Island fernbird, banded kokopu, long finned eel, freshwater crayfish, New Zealand falcon, grey duck, goldstripe gecko and ornate skink	**Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	22. As part of the Self-help Possum Control Programme, support regular possum control in natural areas on private land on the ring plain	**TRC,** private land occupiers	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
	23. Support predator control on privately owned Key Native Ecosystems that are habitats for threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive species (and for which biodiversity plans have been prepared)	**TRC,** private land occupiers	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2
Restoration	24. Undertake fencing and/or planting (as appropriate) to support the restoration of ecosystems in Table 2 and any other sites that have been identified as regionally or locally important	**DOC, TRC, TLAs, QEII**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1, 2 & 4; Priority 2 & 3
	25. Undertake planting to support the restoration of other remnant forests, wetlands, sand dunes, coastal herbfields or habitats of native species	**TTT, F&G, DOC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1, 2 & 4; Priority 2 & 3
Funding	26. Provide financial or in kind assistance to land owners or community groups to secure the protection of natural values, including the protection and enhancement of values associated with habitats of threatened, at risk, or regionally distinctive species and original rare ecosystems and threatened environments	**DOC, QEII, TRC, TLAs, TTT**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 2 & 4; Priority 2 & 3
	27. Provide financial assistance or in kind assistance to address information and research gaps relating to biodiversity in Taranaki	**DOC, TRC, TLAs, TTT**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcomes 1; & 2 ; Priority 1, 2 & 3

	Key actions	Lead responsibility	Existing or new action	Implementation timeframe	Main outcome / priority being achieved
Advice and education	28. Provide advice and information on species protection to community groups and individuals	**DOC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1
	29. Provide advice and information on habitat protection to community groups and individuals	**DOC**, **TRC, F&G**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1; Priority 2 and Priority 3
	30. Provide property planning assistance to community groups and individuals wishing to protect regionally and locally important indigenous biodiversity values	**TRC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 2 & 4; Priority 1; 2 & 3
	31. Provide planning extension service promoting protection of riparian planting to improve water quality and freshwater biodiversity and to enhance wildlife corridors	**TRC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 2 & 43
	32. Provide information, technology, expertise and resources to empower community groups and individuals to protect, maintain and restore indigenous biodiversity	**DOC, TRC, TLAs , TTT, HS, NMMRS, MAIN**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 2, 3, & 4
	33. Showcase projects and volunteer programmes to encourage community understanding of, and involvement in, programmes and activities to protect, maintain and restore indigenous biodiversity	**Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust, TKT, ETET, TTT, NMMRS Paraninihi Trust, DOC**	Existing	As appropriate	Outcome 2, 3, & 4
	34. Support and implement a kiwi and penguin aversion programme for dog owners	**TRC, DOC, TKT, ETET, NMMRS**	Existing	By 2012	Outcome 1, 2, 3 & 4; Priority 1
	35. Train additional trainers to make the kiwi and penguin aversion programme more accessible to dog owners	**TRC, DOC, TKT, ETET, NMMRS**	New	By 2012	Outcome 1, 2, 3 & 4; Priority 1
Monitoring and research	36. Continue existing monitoring programmes to determine biodiversity state-pressure-response in Taranaki, including the adequacy of protection measures	**TRC, DOC, TLAs**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 2, 3, & 4
	37. Investigate the distribution and abundance of the 67 threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species identified in Table 1 for which there is currently inadequate information to determine the appropriate protection measures	**DOC**	New	By 2017	Outcome 2, 3, & 4; Priority 1
	38. Develop a web-based database, which is accessible to interest groups, to manage information on locally important indigenous biodiversity values, including GIS data on locations and distributions of threatened, at risk and regionally distinctive species	**TRC, DOC, TLAs**	New	By 2017	Outcome 2, 3, & 4
	39. Develop protocols for managing and sharing information between Accord partners – particularly in relation to databases developed for storing information on sites of common interest	**All**	New	By 2015	Outcome 2, 3, & 4
	40. Develop and implement a biodiversity condition index for monitoring the ecological condition of Key Native Ecosystems over time (and for which biodiversity plans have been prepared)	**TRC**	Existing	June 2012	Outcome 1, 2 & 3
	41. Gather information on significant vegetation and habitats throughout Taranaki	**TRC, DOC, TLAs**	Existing	As appropriate	Outcome 1, 2 & 3; Priority 2 & 3
	42. Commission research into, and development of, new technologies and techniques to combat existing and emergent invasive plant and animal threats	**DOC, TRC, ETET**	New	As appropriate	Outcome 2, 3, & 4
Advocate	43. Advocate, as appropriate, to central or local government, industry, and other groups on biodiversity issues of relevance to Taranaki	**All**	Existing	As appropriate	Outcome 1, 2, 3 & 4
	44. Support funding applications by Accord partners on biodiversity projects that contribute to the vision, outcomes and priorities set out in this Accord	**All**	Existing	As appropriate	Outcome 1, 2, 3 & 4
Facilitator	45. Participate in the Taranaki Biodiversity Forum	**All**	Existing	Annually	Outcome 2, 3, & 4
	46. Coordinate possum control and riparian management by private land occupiers on the ring plain	**TRC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 2 & 4
Regulatory	47. Use the Accord vision, desired outcomes, priorities and Plan of Action plus supporting information to inform planning and policy processes	**All**	New	Ongoing	Outcome 1, 2, 3 & 4; Priority 1; 2 & 3
	48. Continue to regulate activities in public conservation areas and manage native wildlife	**DOC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 1; 2 & 3
	49. Continue to manage the effects of use and development on fresh water (including wetlands), the coastal marine area and soil conservation through the RMA	**TRC**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2 & 3
	50. Continue to manage the effects of land use and development on sand dunes, forests and wetlands through the RMA	**TLAs**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1 & 2; Priority 2 & 3
	51. Continue to manage game birds and sport fisheries	**F&G**	Existing	Ongoing	Outcome 1

DOC = Department of Conservation; QEII = Queen Elizabeth II National Trust; ETET = East Taranaki Environment Trust; NZHS = Herpatological Society; TLAs = territorial local authorities (district councils); F&G = Fish and Game; TRC = Taranaki Regional Council; TTT = Taranaki Tree Trust; NMMRS = Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society; MAIN = Mapping Analysis and Information Network Trust, New Zealand

7. Monitoring and review

7.1 Monitoring implementation of the Accord

Implementation of the Accord is the responsibility of Accord partners as per the action plan set out in section 6.2 of the Accord. In relation to their responsibilities, Accord partners will, where they are identified as the lead agency:

- Gather and review information in relation to their organisation on the delivery of activities and projects listed in section 6.2
- Annually meet with Accord partners to discuss progress towards completion of activities and projects listed in section 6.2.

Implementation of the Accord will also be reported by Accord partners to other groups with an interest in biodiversity through the Taranaki Biodiversity Forum.

7.2 New signatories to the Accord

The signatories to the Accord currently represent key local agencies and community groups that have contributed to and agreed to be a signatory to this document. However, it is recognised that there are many other organisations and groups, such as Iwi and hapu, research and educational institutes, and industry that might be interested in becoming a signatory to the Accord over its life.

The addition of new signatories represents a potentially significant change to the Accord. When other parties indicate they are interested in being a signatory, Accord partners will undertake an interim review of the Accord to consider the matter (refer section 7.3 below).

7.3 Review of the Accord

This Accord is a ten-year Accord. The Accord will remain in force until 30 June 2012. However, to ensure the Accord continues to be relevant and up-to-date, Accord partners will commence an interim review:

- Where relevant circumstances have changed to a significant extent since the commencement of the Accord, including the addition of new parties seeking to be a signatory
- Every five years to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the Accord.

A review of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Accord will include:

- An assessment of the efficiency of the Accord in relation to the extent to which Accord actions were implemented (i.e. did we do what we said we would do)
- An assessment of the effectiveness of the Accord in relation to achieving the desired outcomes and addressing the priorities
- A report to the Taranaki Biodiversity Forum on the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the Accord.

Any amendment to the Accord will be subject to the agreement of Accord partners and reported to the Taranaki Biodiversity Forum.

For further information on the Accord, please contact the Biodiversity Section of the Taranaki Regional Council on:

Telephone (06) 765 7127 or
Email info@trc.govt.nz.

Definition of terms

This section provides the meanings for terms used in the Accord.

Accord refers to this document, which sets out a statement of intent between Accord partners on an agreed vision, outcomes, priorities and actions for biodiversity in the Taranaki region.

Accord partners refers to local agencies and groups that are signatories of this Accord (refer section 1.3 of this Accord) and have agreed to contribute to the achievement of the Accord vision and objectives, give effect to its principles and priorities, and its implementation.

Active management refers to physical works and action on land for the purposes of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity values. Active management includes species recovery programmes, habitat restoration and sustained weed and pest control.

Areal refers to an area.

At risk means a species facing a longer-term risk of extinction in the wild (either because of severely reduced or naturally small population size or because the population is declining but buffered by either a large total population or a slow rate of decline) as identified in the New Zealand Threat Classification System lists.

Biological diversity (biodiversity) means the variability among living organisms and the ecological complexes of which they are a part, including diversity within species, between species, and of ecosystems.

Capacity refers to the technical and technological ability, skills, knowledge and organisational structure required to undertake management actions, and to collect and interpret information.

Conservation refers to the preservation and protection of natural and historic resources for the purpose of maintaining their intrinsic values, providing for their appreciation and recreational enjoyment by the public, and safeguarding the options of future generations.

Core habitat refers to specific areas of habitat or habitat types which are essential for the long-term survival and or recovery of a species. For resident species, this means sufficient suitable habitat area to maintain a viable breeding population, whereas for migratory and transient species, this means sufficient suitable habitat area to support temporary populations (e.g. wetland areas for migratory wading birds).

Ecosystem refers to an ecological community together with its environment, functioning as a unit, an interacting system of living and non-living parts such as sunlight, air, water, minerals and nutrients.

Endangered species means species in danger of extinction and whose survival is unlikely if the casual factors continue operating.

Endemic species refers to an indigenous species which breed only within a specified region or locality and is unique to that area.

Exotic means introduced, not native: See Introduced species.

Formally protected refers to the application of legal mechanisms, which provide long-term security of a geographically defined area for nature conservation purposes or to maintain biodiversity values. It may be either publicly or privately owned.

GIS refers to geographic information system.

Habitat refers to the place or type of area in which an organism naturally occurs.

Hapu refers to a Maori family or district groups, communities, a sub-tribe.

Indigenous means native to New Zealand.

Indigenous species means a species or genetic variant found naturally in New Zealand, including migrant species visiting New Zealand on a regular or irregular basis.

Indigenous vegetation means any local indigenous plant community through the course of its growth or succession consisting primarily of native species and habitats normally associated with that vegetation type, soil or ecosystem or having the potential to develop these characteristics. It includes vegetation with these characteristics that has been regenerated with human assistance following disturbance or as mitigation for another activity, but excludes plantations and vegetation that have been established for commercial harvesting.

In-situ conservation refers to the conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings.

Introduced species refers to a plant or animal species which has been brought to New Zealand by humans, either by accident or design. A synonym is 'exotic species'.

Invasive species refers to introduced animal or plant species that can adversely affect indigenous species and ecosystems by altering genetic variation within species, or affecting the survival of species, or the quality or sustainability of natural communities.

Invertebrate refers to an animal without a backbone or spinal column, including insects, spiders, worms, slaters, corals, sponges and jellyfish. *See vertebrate.*

Iwi refers to tribe or grouping of Maori people descended from a common ancestor(s).

Key Native Ecosystems refers to terrestrial (land) areas identified by the Taranaki Regional Council as having regionally significant ecological values.

Land environment means a region or area (environmental domain) classified under the Land Environments of New Zealand system.

Land Environments of New Zealand or **LENZ** is a classification of environments mapped across New Zealand's landscape, derived from a comprehensive set of climate, landform and soil variables known to influence the distribution of species.

Mainland island refers to an area of land on mainland New Zealand, isolated by means of fencing or geographical features, and intensively managed for the purpose of protecting and restoring habitats and ecological processes.

Maintenance means 'no net loss' as achieved by the protection of existing areas and habitats and/or the restoration and enhancement of areas and habitats as may be required through biodiversity off-sets or other initiatives.

Migratory species refers to those species that visit a region on a regular basis as part of their migratory patterns, but which do not breed in that region. Certain habitat types in Taranaki may be of significant importance to maintain viable populations of migratory species, e.g., wetlands for migrating wading birds.

Montane means growing or living in a mountainous region.

Native species: See Indigenous species.

Public conservation land refers to land administered by the Department of Conservation for whatever purpose. It excludes land administered under conservation legislation by other parties.

Regionally distinctive species includes both threatened and non-threatened species that are worthy of protection because they are largely confined to the region, are particularly uncommon in this part of the country, or because Taranaki represents the limit of their national distribution range.

Resident species refers to those species that spend the majority of their time in a region, and maintain their breeding populations in that region.

Resilience refers to the ability of a species, or variety or breed of species, to respond and adapt to external environmental stresses.

Restoration and enhancement means the active intervention and management of degraded biotic communities, landforms and landscapes in order to restore biological character, ecological and physical processes.

Significant Natural Areas refers to natural areas identified as being significant in the *New Plymouth District Plan* and the *South Taranaki District Plan*.

Species refers to a group of organisms capable of interbreeding freely with each other but not with members of other species.

Sustainable use refers to the use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.

Threatened land environments refers to land environments, defined by Land Environments of New Zealand at Level IV (2003), that have 20 per cent or less remaining in indigenous vegetation cover.

Threatened species means a species facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild and includes nationally critical, nationally endangered and nationally vulnerable species as identified in the New Zealand Threat Classification System lists.

Transient species refers to those species that visit a region from time to time, but do not breed in that region.

Vascular plants, include ferns, flowering plants and trees, but do not include mosses and liverworts.

Vertebrate refers to an animal with backbone; amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals and fish. *See Invertebrate*.

Wetland includes permanently or intermittently wet areas, shallow water, and land water margins that support a natural ecosystem of plants and animals that are adapted to wet conditions.

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Appendix I: Threatened and historically rare ecosystems

Table 4: Land Environments of New Zealand (LENZ): threat classifications relating to Taranaki

Threat category	Acutely threatened	Chronically threatened	At risk	Critically under protected	Under protected	No threat category
Criteria	<10% native cover remaining	10 – 20% native cover remaining	20 – 30% native cover remaining	>30% native cover remaining		
				<10% legally protected	10 – 20% legally protected	>20% legally protected
LENZ IV in Taranaki	A5.1c, A5.3a, A5.3b, A7.2c	B1.3a		A6.1c		A1.1a
	C1.2a, C1.3a, C2.1a, C3.1a, C3.1b, C3.2b, C3.2c, C3.2d	C1.1a				C1.1b, C1.1c
		D2.1b	D2.2a, D2.3a		D2.3c	D1.1c, D1.1e, D2.1a, D2.3b, D4.1c, D4.1d
	F4.1a, F5.2a, F5.2b, F5.2c, F6.1d, F7.1c	F1.1e, F1.4a	F1.1c, F1.3a, F7.1b, F7.2a, F7.3c		F6.1a	F1.1b, F1.1d, F1.3b, F5.2c, F5.3a, F5.3b, F6.2a, F7.2b, F7.3a
	G3.3a		G1.1d		G5.1a	
	H1.3a, H3.1b	H1.2b, H1.2c			H1.3b	H2.2a, H4.1a, H4.1b, H4.1c,
	J4.1c, J4.2a	J4.2b, J4.3b				P4.1b, P4.1c, P7.1a, P7.1b, P7.1c, P8.2a, P8.2b

For a description of LENZ classifications, refer to website http://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/databases/lenz/products_techguide.asp.

Table 5: Historically rare ecosystems

Coastal systems	Inland and alpine systems with raw or recent soils	Semi-subterranean	Other inland systems
Dune deflation hollows Shell barrier beaches (Chenier plain) Coastal turf Stony beach ridges Shingle beaches Coastal rock stacks Coastal cliffs on silicic bedrock Coastal cliffs on silicic-intermediate rock Mafic coastal cliffs Calcareous coastal cliffs Ultramafic sea cliffs Marine mammal influenced sites	Inland saline (salt pans) Strongly leached terraces & plains ("Wilderness" vegetation) Cloud forest Geothermal systems	Sinkholes Cave entrances	Volcanic dunes Calcareous screes Ultramafic screes Young tephra (<500 years) plains and hillslopes Recent lava flows (<1000 years) Old tephra (>500 years) plains (= "frost flats") Frost hollows Boulderfields of silicic-rocks Boulderfields of silicic-intermediate rocks (non-volcanic) Volcanic boulderfields Debris flow or lahar Boulderfields of calcareous rocks Ultramafic boulderfields Cliffs, scarps & tors of silicic rocks Mafic cliffs, scarps & tors Calcareous cliffs, scarps & tors Ultramafic cliffs, scarps & tors Ultramafic hills Inland sand dunes Inland outwash gravels Braided riverbeds Granitic sand plains Granitic gravel fields Sandstone erosion pavements Limestone erosion pavements

The following list has been compiled from scientific research undertaken by Landcare Research. The ecosystem types listed are not necessarily found in all regions or districts, and some will be protected on public conservation land. For further information on historically rare ecosystems, refer to website http://www.biodiversity.govt.nz/pdfs/protecting-our-places-detail.pdf.

Appendix II: Threatened, at risk and regionally distinctive species

Table 6: Threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive native animal species in Taranaki

Classification		Threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species in Taranaki		Resident (R) or migratory (M) populations	Adequacy of current protection (at some sites)
		Common name	Scientific name		
Threatened	Nationally critical	Black stilt	*Himantopus novaezelandiae*	M	Unknown
		Grey Duck	*Anas superciliosa superciliosa*	R	Adequate
		Killer whale	*Orcinus orca*	M	Unknown
		Maui's dolphin	*Cephalorhynchus hectori maui*	M	Adequate
		New Zealand shore plover	*Thinornis novaeseelandiae*	M	Unknown
		White heron	*Ardea modesta*	M	Unknown
	Nationally endangered	Australasian bittern	*Botaurus poiciloptilus*	R	Poor
		Black fronted tern	*Sterna albostriata*	M	Adequate
		Northern lesser short tailed bat	*Mystacina tuberculata aupourica*	R	Unknown
	Nationally vulnerable	Banded dotterel	*Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus*	M	Unknown
		Blue duck (whio)	*Hymenolaimus malachorhynchos*	R	Poor
		Bush falcon[1]	*Falco novaeseelandiae "bush"*	R	Adequate
		Caspian Tern	*Hydroprogne caspia*	R	Unknown
		Long tailed bat (Nth Island)	*Chalinolobus tuberculata*	R	Unknown
		New Zealand dabchick	*Poliocephalus rufopectus*	R	Poor
		North Island kaka[1]	*Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis*	R	Adequate
		North Island kokako	*Callaeas cinerea wilsoni*	R	Poor
		Northern NZ dotterel	*Charadrius obscurus aquilonius*	R	Poor
		Pied shag	*Phalacrocorax varius varius*	R	Unknown
		Red-billed gull	*Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus*	R	Adequate
		Reef heron	*Egretta sacra sacra*	R	Unknown
		Southern Nth Island speckled skink	*Oligosoma aff. infrapunctatum*	R	Poor
		Western North Island brown kiwi	*Apteryx mantelli*	R	Adequate -
		Wrybill	*Anarhynchus frontalis*	M	Adequate

Classification		Threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species in Taranaki		Resident (R) or migratory (M) populations	Adequacy of current protection (at some sites)
		Common name	Scientific name		
At risk	Declining	Black katipo spider	*Latrodectus atritus*	R	Poor
		Bluegill bully	*Gobiomorphus hubbsi*	R	Poor
		Brown mudfish[1]	*Neochanna apoda*	R	Adequate
		Flesh-footed shearwater	*Puffinus carneipes*	R	Adequate
		Freshwater crayfish	*Paranephrops planifrons*	R	Adequate
		Freshwater mussel	*Hyridella menziesii*	R	Poor
		Giant kokopu	*Galaxias argenteus*	R	Adequate
		Inanga	*Galaxias maculatus*	R	Adequate
		Katipo spider	*Latrodectus katipo*	R	Poor
		Koaro	*Galaxias brevipinnis*	R	Adequate
		Lamprey[1]	*Geotria australis*	R	Unknown
		Longfinned eel	*Anguilla dieffenbachii*	R	Adequate
		Moth Notoreas 'Taranaki coast'[1]	*Notoreas "Taranaki Coast"*	R	Poor
		New Zealand pied oystercatcher	*Haematopus finschi*	M	Unknown
		New Zealand pipit	*Anthus novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae*	R	Adequate
		North Island fernbird[1]	*Bowdleria punctata vealeae*	R	Adequate
		North Island rifleman	*Acanthisitta chloris granti*	R	Poor
		North little blue penguin	*Eudyptula minor iredalei*	R	Poor
		Ornate skink	*Cyclodina ornata*	R	Poor
		Pied stilt	*Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus*	R	Adequate
		Redfin bully	*Gobiomorphushuttoni*	R	Adequate
		Short jawed kokopu[1]	*Galaxias postvectis*	R	Adequate
		Sooty shearwater	*Puffinus griseus*	M	Adequate
		Striped skink*	*Oligosoma striatum*	R	Poor
		Torrentfish	*Cheimarrichthys fosteri*	R	Unknown
		Wellington green gecko	*Naultinus e. punctatus*	R	Unknown
		White-fronted tern	*Sterna striata striata*	R	Adequate
	Recovering	Brown teal	*Anas chlorotis "North Island"*	R	Adequate
		Variable oystercatcher	*Haematopus unicolor*	R	Poor
	Relict	Goldstripe gecko[1]	*Hoplodactylus chrysosireticus*	R	Poor
		Pacific gecko	*Hoplodactylus pacificus*	R	Unknown
		Spotless crake [1]	*Porzana tabuensis plumbea*	R	Poor
	Naturally uncommon	Amphipod Tara Taranaki	*Tara Taranaki*	R	Adequate
		Banded rail	*Gallirallus philippensis assimilis*	R	Unknown
		Black shag	*Phalacrocorax carbo novaehollandiae*	R	Adequate
		Carabid beetle	*Brullea antartica*	R	Unknown
		Giant land snail [1]	*Powelliphanta 'Egmont'*	R	Adequate
		Ground beetle	*Mecodema angustulum*	R	Unknown
		Little black shag	*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*	M	Adequate
		Little shag	*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*	M	Adequate
		Long-tailed cuckoo	*Eudynamys taitensis*	R	Unknown
		Royal spoonbill	*Platalea regia*	M	Unknown
Regionally distinctive (but not threatened or at risk)		Grey-faced petrel	*Pterodroma macroptera gouldi*	R	Adequate
		Scarab beetle	*Odontrio velutina*	R	Unknown
		Tadpole shrimp	*Lepidurus apus*	R	Poor
		Yellow crowned parakeet	*Cyanoramphus auriceps*	R	Poor

[1] Nationally threatened species that are also considered to be regionally 'distinctive'.

Table 7: Threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive native plant species in Taranaki

Classification*		Threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species in Taranaki		Adequacy of current protection (at some sites)
		Common name	Scientific name	
Threatened	Nationally critical		*Crassula peduncularis*	Poor
		New Zealand hazel	*Pomaderris apetala subsp. maritima*	Adequate
		Swamp hood orchid	*Pterostylis micromega (Hook f.)*	Poor
			Sebaea ovata	Unknown
	Nationally endangered		*Myosotis brevis*	Poor
		Forget-me-not	*Myosotis petiolata var. pansa*[1]	Poor
		Tussock sedge	*Schoenus carsei*	Unknown
	Nationally vulnerable	Minute succulent	*Crassula manaia*[1]	Poor
		Wood rose	*Dactylanthus taylorii*[1]	Adequate
			Gratiola concinna	Poor
		Napuka, Titirangi	*Hebe speciosa*	Poor
		Coastal cress	*Lepidium flexicaule*	Poor
		Cooks scurvy grass	*Lepidium oleraceum*	Adequate
		Dwarf musk	*Mazus novaezeelandiae subsp*	Unknown
		New Zealand water cress	*Rorippa divaricata*	Unknown
At risk	Declining	Yellow mistletoe	*Alepis flavida*[1]	Unknown
		Kirks daisy	*Brachyglottis kirkii var. kirkii*[1]	Adequate
		Sea sedge	*Carex litorosa*	Unknown
		Sand coprosma	*Coprosma acerosa*	Unknown
		Sand spike sedge	*Eleocharis neozelandica*	Unknown
		Shore spurge	*Euphorbia glauca*	Poor
			Gunnera arenaria	Unknown
		Leafless rush	*Juncus pauciflorus*	Unknown
			Leptinella tenella	Unknown
		Pygmy forget-me-not	*Myosotis pygmaea var. pygmaea*	Unknown
		Stout water milfoil	*Myriophyllum robustum*	Adequate
		Scarlet mistletoe	*Peraxilla colensoi*	Poor
		Red mistletoe, pikirangi	*Peraxilla tetrapetala*	Poor
		Sand daphne	*Pimelea aff. arenaria*	Poor
		Kirk's kohuhu	*Pittosporum kirkii*	Adequate
		King fern	*Ptisana salicina*[1]	Adequate
		Mud buttercup	*Ranunculus limosella*	Poor
		Dwarf buttercup	*Ranunculus recens var. recens*[1]	Poor
		Native anglelica	*Scandia rosifolia*[1]	Poor
			Selliera rotundifolia	Unknown
	Recovering	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Relict	Pingao	*Desmoschoenus spiralis*[1]	Adequate
		Swamp leek orchid	*Prasophyllum hectorii*	Unknown
		Native sowthistle	*Sonchus kirkii*	Poor
	Naturally uncommon	Kohurangi	*Brachyglottis turneri*[1]	Poor
		Turf carrot	*Chaerophyllum "minute flower"*	Unknown
			Crassula mataikona	Unknown
		Creeping button daisy	*Leptinella dispersa ssp. dispersa*	Unknown
			Lindsaea virdis[1]	Unknown
		Mt Egmont shrub mahoe	*Melicytus drucei*[1]	Adequate
		Spider orchid	*Nematoceras rivularis "Te Henui"*	Unknown
		Shrub daisy	*Olearia quinquevulnera*	Adequate
		New Zealand spinach	*Tetragonia tetragonioides*[1]	Poor
		Sun orchid	*Thelymitra formosa*[1]	Unknown
Data deficient		Spider orchid	*Nematoceras rivulare*	Unknown

Classification*	Threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species in Taranaki		Adequacy of current protection (at some sites)
	Common name	Scientific name	
Taxonomically Indeterminate	Mud buttercup	*Limosella "Manutahi"*[1]	Poor
Regionally distinctive (but not threatened or at risk)	Bulbophyllum	*Adelopetalum tuberculatum*	Unknown
	Jointed fern	*Arthropteris tenella*	Poor
	Kauri grass	*Astelia trinervia*	Unknown
	Mangrove	*Avicennia marina*	Adequate
	Jointed twig rush	*Baumea articulata*	Unknown
	Pakihi sedge / peat bog sedge	*Baumea teretifolia*	Unknown
		Blechnum blechnoides	Adequate
		Coprosma x kirkii	Unknown
	'Paritutu' Korokio	*Corokia cotoneaster var. paritutu*	Adequate
		Corunasylis nuda	Unknown
	Woollyhead	*Craspedia 'Otakeho'*	Poor
		Deparia petersenii	Unknown
	Akeake	*Dodonaea viscosa*	Adequate
	Neinei	*Dracophyllum latifolium*	Adequate
	Mountain neinei	*Dracophyllum traversii*	Adequate
		Forstera bidwillii var. densiflora	Unknown
	Cutty grass	*Gahnia lacera*	Unknown
	Snowberry	*Gaultheria oppositifolia*	Adequate
		Hebe corriganii	Unknown
	Shore koromiko	*Hebe elliptica var. elliptica*	Adequate
		Hebe stricta var. egmontiana	Adequate
	Mountain lacebark	*Hoheria lyallii*	Adequate
	Green mistletoe	*Ileostylus micranthus*	Adequate
	Swamp millet	*Isachne globosa*	Unknown
	Grass/flat-leaved rush	*Juncus caespiticius*	Unknown
	Mangeao, tangeao	*Litsea calicaris*	Unknown
		Lycopodium cernum	Adequate
	Clubmoss	*Lycopodium deuterodensum*	Adequate
	Wharangi	*Melicope ternata*	Adequate
	Northern rata	*Metrosideros carminea*	Unknown
	Willow-leaved maire	*Mida salicifolia*	Adequate
	Silver beech	*Nothofagus menziesii*	Adequate
		Myosotis brevis (syn pygmaea var. minutiflora)	Adequate
	Black beech	*Nothofagus solandri*	Adequate
	Hard beech	*Nothofagus truncata*	Adequate
		Olearia albida	Unknown
		Olearia solandri	Unknown
		Olearia townsoni	Unknown
	Parahebe	*Parahebe lanceolata*	Unknown
	Peperomia	*Peperomia urvilleana*	Adequate
		Pimelea carnosa	Unknown
	Tawhirikaro	*Pittosporum cornifolium*	Adequate
	Saltmarsh ribbonwood	*Plagianthus divaricatus*	Unknown
	Kauri sedge	*Schoenus tendo*	Unknown
	Swamp maire	*Syzygium maire*	Adequate
	Sun orchid	*Thelymitra aff.paucflora*	Unknown
		Thelymitra cyanea	Unknown
		Thelymitra species	Unknown
	Bladderwort	*Utricularia dichotoma*	Unknown

[1] Nationally threatened species that are also considered to be regionally 'distinctive'.

Appendix III: Taranaki's most valuable habitats for threatened, at risk or regionally distinctive species